

**In the Specification:**

Please add a new section directly before the "Technical Field" as follows:

**CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION**

This application is a divisional application of United States Patent Application No. 09/651,778 entitled "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR FORMING AND USING PLANARIZING PADS FOR MECHANICAL AND CHEMICAL-MECHANICAL PLANARIZATION OF MICROELECTRONIC SUBSTRATES," filed on August 30, 2000, now Patent No. 6,592,443, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.